

CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer

: of Health :

FOR 1949

Clacton Urban District Council

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VICE-CHAIRMAN :

Mr. R. G. WOODFORD

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

J. RAMSBOTTOM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health (Temp.)

GEO. H. SMITH, M.S.I.A., M.I.P.C., R.S.I. CERT. MEAT AND FOODS.

R.S.I. Cert. Sanitary Science.

R.S.I. Advanced Cert. in Practical and Administrative Duties.

Institute of Hygiene Cert. Advanced Hygiene and Physiology.

Institute of Public Cleansing Diploma.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Officer.

N. HAWKINS, M.S.I.A., CERT. S.I.B., CERT. MEAT AND FOODS,

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. ROYLE, M.S.I.A., A.R.SAN.I., CERT. MEAT AND FOODS,

Additional Sanitary Inspector

E. H. NORFOLK

... ..

Senior Clerk

Miss E. P. JOHNS

... ..

Junior Clerk

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWE HALL,
CLACTON-ON-SEA,
September, 1950

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
CLACTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS TILSON AND GENTLEMEN,

I have again the honour to present the Annual Report respecting the health and sanitary circumstances of your district during 1949, which I consider very satisfactory.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the year is 23,030, and it is upon this figure the vital statistics are based. The comparability factor for the population of the Urban District is given this year, making it possible to compare the local death rate with that of England and Wales, and the comparison is favourable to the town.

The outstanding features are :—

- (1) The absence of maternal deaths for the fifth year in succession.
- (2) The low puerperal pyrexia rate.
- (3) The infantile mortality which is barely 80 per cent. of the National rate.
- (4) The low incidence of infectious disease as indicated by the doctors' notifications, and which is roughly one third of the national rate.
- (5) The increase in tuberculosis during the year, whether judged by the new cases recorded on the register, or the number of deaths.

Considerable headway has been made with housing which is still the bugbear in public health administration

In presenting this report, I wish to thank the Council for their consideration and support for the year under review, and also to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the various officers of the Council, and particularly to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Public Health Staff.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. RAMSBOTTOM,

A/Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	6,470
Resident Population (Registrar General's estimate, 1949)	23,030
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1949	9,500
Rateable Value	£281,659
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,100

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate ...	126	123	249
Illegitimate ..	16	9	25
Totals	142	132	274

Birth Rate per 1,000 population ... 11.89

Still Births—Legitimate ...	5	2	7
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Totals	5	2	7

Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ... 24.9

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths at all ages	158	187	345

Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 population ... 14.98

DEATHS FROM DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS OF PREGNANCY AND CHILD BIRTH

Cause	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 live and still births
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes ...	Nil	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	Male	Female	Total
Actual Number of Deaths Legitimate ...	1	6	7
Actual Number of Deaths Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Totals	1	6	7

Infantile Death Rate	25.5
Death Rate of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births ...	28.1
Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	Nil

DEATHS FROM MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH & DIARRHOEA

(Under 2 years)

Measles	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough			...	Nil
Diarrhoea		...	..	Nil

DEATHS FROM CANCER, TUBERCULOSIS, INFLUENZA, AND HEART DISEASE

Disease	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population
Cancer	56	2.43
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	8	
Non-Pulmonary	5	
	13	0.56
Influenza	13	0.56
Heart Disease	126	5.47

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1949

Under 1 year	...	...	...	7
1 and under 2 years	..	...	...	1
2 ,, 5 ,,	...	...	...	1
5 ,, 15 ,,	...	...	...	3
15 ,, 25 ,,	...	...	...	1
25 ,, 35 ,,	...	...	...	4
35 ,, 45 ,,	...	...	...	10
45 ,, 55 ,,	...	...	...	22
55 ,, 65 ,,	...	...	...	54
65 ,, 75 ,,	...	...	...	80
75 and upwards	...	...	...	162
			Total	345

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1949

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	4	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	2	5
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
Influenza	9	4	13
Cancer	25	31	56
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	123	28	41
Heart Disease	56	70	126
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	8	4	12
Bronchitis	7	1	8
Pneumonia	5	4	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	6	6
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	—	3
Appendicitis	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	4	3	7
Nephritis	3	3	6
Premature Birth	1	2	3
Con. Malformation : birth inj., etc.	—	2	2
Suicide	1	—	1
Road Traffic Accident	—	1	1
Other Violent Causes	2	4	6
All other causes	12	18	30
Totals	158	187	345

There were 44 more deaths registered as occurring in the Urban District than in 1948. The diseases which mainly contributed to this increase were Heart Disease with 25, Cancer 9, and Influenza 11. There were also 4 more deaths from Tuberculosis than were recorded last year.

The classification of deaths according to the various age groups shows that up to 35 years there was little difference; there being actually three less than the previous year. From 35 to 65 years the 86 deaths were more than double. On the other hand the age group 65 to 75 shows a reduction of 16, whilst there was an increase of 19 in persons over 75.

The crude death rate of 14.98 is 1.88 above that of last year. The Registrar General has again given the "comparability factor" for the population of each district; that of Clacton being 0.71. The age distribution of populations shows very marked differences between (a) towns and (b) rural and residential areas, and the tendency to death is much higher in persons over 55. In rural and residential areas there is a larger proportion of persons over 55 than in particularly the industrial towns, consequently the crude death rate should be much higher. When

the crude death rate is multiplied by the "comparability factor" which is 0.71 for Clacton, it gives the corrected death rate of 10.6. This figure offers a simple, and in the main, an accurate measure of the comparative health of the district. The corrected figure of 10.6 for Clacton compares very favourably with the national rate of 11.7.

INFANTILE DEATHS

The following table shows the causes and the ages at death, of the seven infantile deaths registered :—

			Under 1 day	1 day to 1 wk.	7 months	8 months	Total
Prematurity	..	...	3	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	...	...	—	—	1	—	1
Meningitis	...	...	—	1	—	—	1
Accidental	...	...		—	—	1	1
Morbus Cordis (Separation of Placenta)			1	—	—	—	1
			—	—	—	—	—
		Totals	4	1	1	1	7
			—	—	—	—	—

The number of infantile deaths was the same as the previous year, 1948.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics, Clacton Urban District and England and Wales as a whole, 1949 :

RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION				C.U.D.C.	England & Wales
Births:					
Live Births	...	...	...	11.89	16.7
Still Births	...	...	...	0.30	0.39
Deaths :					
All Causes	...	...	...	10.60	^{Corrected} Death Rate 11.7
Typhoid	..	...	...	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough		...	...	0.00	0.01
Diphtheria	...		...	0.0	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	...	..	0.56	0.45
Influenza	...	..	..	0.56	0.15
Smallpox	..	..	...	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis				0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.39	0.51
Notifications (corrected) :—					
Typhoid Fever	...	...		0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	..			0.00	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...		0.00	0.02
Scarlet Fever	...	...		0.78	1.63
Whooping Cough	...			1.43	2.39
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.00	0.01
Erysipelas	...	..	...	0.00	0.19
Smallpox	...	...	...	0.00	0.00
Measles	...		...	3.38	8.95
Pneumonia	..	...	...	0.00	0.80
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...		0.04	0.13
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...		0.00	0.01
Food Poisoning	...	..		0.00	0.14
Totals				5.63	14.32

Infant Deaths :—	Rates per 1,000 Live Births	
All causes under 1 year of age	25.5	32
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years	0.00	3
Notifications (corrected):—	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	3.55	6.31

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

(Rates per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births)

Cause	C.U.D.C.	England & Wales	Rates per million women aged 15-44
Abortion with Sepsis	0.00	0.11	8
Abortion without Sepsis	0.00	0.05	4
Puerperal Infections	0.00	0.11	
Other Maternal causes	0.00	0.71	

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Medical Officer of Health (Temp.)

J. RAMSBOTTOM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Also Assistant County Medical Officer, and Medical Officer for Brightlingsea U.D.C., Frinton and Walton U.D.C., and Tendring R.D.C.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Previous to September 1949, bacteriological work was carried out at Colchester Hospital; water and ice cream samples at the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, and milk at the Essex Institute of Agriculture, Writtle, Chelmsford. With the exception of the chemical analysis of water and sewage which are still sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., as before, all investigations are now carried out at the Public Health Laboratory Borough General Hospital, Ipswich.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

All Ambulance Services are under Essex County Council control as the Local Health Authority.

NURSING HOMES

In Clacton Urban District there are 4 Nursing Homes registered under the County Scheme.

Ellisdene Nursing Home, Clacton

(Private)

11 beds, 7 being for maternity cases

Waltham Nursing Home, Holland-on-Sea

(Private)

6 beds, 2 being for maternity cases

Woodboro' Nursing Home, Clacton

...

5 beds, maternity

(N.E. Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board)

Galloway Nursing Home, Clacton

8 beds, medical and surgical cases

(Private)

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CHILD WELFARE

The main clinic is provided at the combined Clinic premises, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton. This Clinic is centrally situated, and there are three sessions each week:

Tuesday morning ... 9.30—12 noon

Thursday morning ... 9.30—12 noon

Thursday afternoon ... 2 p.m.—4 p.m.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer is in attendance.

In addition to the Central Clinic, smaller subsidiary Clinics are held at Holland-on-Sea and Jaywick.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

Sessions are held each Tuesday afternoon at 1.30 p.m. at the Combined Clinic, Skelmersdale Road, Clacton.

WOMEN'S WELFARE CLINIC

One session monthly is held at the Central Clinic between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on the second Monday in the month.

In addition to the above, there are special clinics for infants under five years held at the Central Clinic premises as follows :—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION CLINIC : 1st Monday in month, 10-11 a.m.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC : 4th Wednesday in the month.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC (Masseuse) : Every Friday between 2 and 4 p.m.

DENTAL CLINIC : Arrangements also exist for the Dental Treatment of both Mothers and Infants.

HOME NURSING

This is under direct County control as the Local Health Authority.

MIDWIVES

Four District Nurse Midwives, also under County Council Control.

PSYCHIATRIST CLINICS.

A County Clinic is held every Friday between 2 and 4 p.m. by appointment.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA including the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

WATER

The main water supply of the Clacton Urban District is satisfactory in both quality and quantity, and in spite of the exceptionally dry season, no restrictive measures to the ordinary use of water were necessary.

Below is given the quantity of water used. It will be seen that the amount used in 1949 was for all practical purposes the same as last year, but a larger proportion was taken from the Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company.

	1948	1949
Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company	254,482,000	320,526,000
Great Bentley Pumping Station ...	105,842,000	48,434,000
St. Osyth Pumping Station...	9,259,000	Nil
Totals	369,583,000	368,960,000

Strict supervision is kept upon the bacteriological purity. Bacteriological examinations made of the raw water before it passes into the distribution mains have proved satisfactory. The Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company provides a water of exceptional purity, although very hard in character.

The water supplied to the Clacton area is not liable to have a plumbo solvent action.

Bacteriological Examinations : —

Sampling Point	Satisfactory Result	Unsatisfactory Result
Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co.	Yes	—
Great Bentley Pumping Station ..	6	—
St. Osyth Pumping Station ...	2	—
District Mains ...	12	7
Old Road Works ...	4	9
Totals	24	16

It will be seen from the above samples that the water at the intake to the Clacton system appeared to be of a higher bacteriological standard than samples taken from the distribution mains, some of which proved very unsatisfactory. The source of the contamination was traced to the old disused filter beds, which had gradually become a reserve supply to boost any over-withdrawal, an occurrence which is frequent

during the summer season. These beds have now been completely cleaned out, sterilised, and roofed over. In this condition they make an excellent storage space capable of holding 170,000 gallons of water.

The Urban District is well served with water mains ; there are 10,106 connections direct to the mains.

Dwelling-houses	...	9,000	estimated
Commercial premises	...	962	"
Licensed premises	...	34	"
Industrial premises	...	33	"
Other premises	...	66	"
Schools	...	11	"

About 19 permanent dwellings are supplied by standpipes.

Jaywick area has some 1,000 summer chalets which obtain their water from standpipes off the main supply. During the height of the season, these chalets may house upwards of 7,000 holiday-makers, but in winter these dwellings have only a nominal population.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE, 1949

NEW WORKS OF SEWERAGE.

Contract No. 2 of the Northern Area Drainage Scheme is now in progress. This contract extends the main soil sewer to a point in London Road near Everitt's Nurseries to take in sewage from Little Clacton for the Tendring Rural District Council.

During the year under review about 1,200 yards of 18 in., 15 in. and 12 in. diameter soil sewer, together with necessary manholes have been completed.

No other new works of sewerage have been carried out during the past year.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

No new work has been undertaken, but existing plant at Holland Haven and Jaywick has been overhauled and the Treatment Works at Holland Haven, the construction of which was completed during the war, was put into operation during the summer months.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of Infested Houses :

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	...	..	8

Number of Houses disinfested :

(a) Council Houses	...	...	...	Nil
(b) Other Houses	...	...	...	8

Methods employed : Stripping of skirtings, etc., where necessary, spraying with insecticide, fumigation, and steam disinfection of bedding.

FACTORIES

For particulars of inspections of premises and action taken, see Sanitary Inspector's Report.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1949

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Sanitary Department during 1949 :

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Special Visits	...	...	...	4611
Special Visits re Nuisances	..	..	...	1053
Re-inspections of Premises	..	...	...	1397
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.			...	480
Piggery Inspections	...	...	...	189
Stable Inspections	...	...	...	71
Inspections re Cats, Dogs, Goats, Pigeons, Rabbits				16
Inspections re Poultry Houses and Runs			...	231
Offensive Trade Premises inspected	...	...		6
Fish Friers' Premises Inspected	...	...		50
Hairdressers' Premises Inspected	...	...		7
Smoke Observations	..	...		33
Cinemas—Sanitary Accommodation Inspected		...	...	3
Public Convenience Inspections		...	...	830
Inspections—Licenced Victuallers' Premises			...	22
Visits re Drain Tests, and Inspections	...		...	215
Preliminary Notices Served		...	...	363
Statutory Notices Served	...	...		13
Letters to Owners re Nuisances		...	...	104
Improvements following Preliminary Notices			...	657
Improvements following Statutory Notices			...	13
Improvements without Notices	...		...	806
Premises at which Nuisances abated	...		...	1134

DRAINAGE—BURRSVILLE

Visits re Drainage	...	...	...	1757
Premises redrained and connected to Sewer			...	143
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	141

It is very necessary that the remaining private roads on this estate be sewered as soon as possible to secure the abatement of nuisances that still arise from cesspool drainage.

The following were the principal improvements obtained :—

Roofs repaired	29
Chimneys repaired	3
Eaves Gutters repaired or provided	21
Rainwater Pipes repaired or renewed	8
Rainwater Soakaway constructed	1
Rainwater Tanks provided	2
Brickwork repaired or repointed	17
Walls rebuilt	10
Walls underpinned	7
Damp-proof courses laid	19
Air Bricks provided	35
Wall Plaster repaired	37
Ceiling Plaster repaired	19
Windows repaired	45
Window Reveals repointed	9
Sashcords provided	8
Natural Lighting improved	2
Permanent Ventilation provided	2
Doors repaired	9
Door Locks repaired	3
Doorstep repaired	1
Handrails to Staircases provided	2
Staircases repaired	2
Floors repaired or relaid	54
Sub-floor concrete laid	5
Skirtings repaired	6
Fireplaces repaired or provided	13
Kitchen Ranges repaired or provided	6
Flues repaired	5
Boilers provided or repaired	4
Hot Water Tanks fitted	5
Hot Water System installed	1
Gas supply improved	1
Storage Tanks provided	2
W.C. Cisterns repaired or provided	34
W.C. Basins provided	20
W.C. Basins cleansed	8
W.C. Seats repaired or provided	9
W.C. Joints repaired	6
W.C. sealed off (vacant premises)	1
W.C. Doors repaired	2
W.C. ventilated	1
W.C. Compartments cleansed	2
W.C. Compartment screened	1
W.C. Structures repaired	7

W. Closets provided	10
Pail Closets abolished	3
Sink Discharge Channels repaired	4
Sink Surround repaired	1
Sink Wastes altered or repaired	28
Sinks provided	2
Gully provided	1
Gully Dishing repaired	4
Gully Surround enlarged	1
Bath Waste repaired	1
Wash-hand Basin provided	1
Inspection Chambers provided	6
Inspection Chamber Covers provided	10
Inspection Chambers repaired	7
Stoppers provided to Cleansing Eyes	11
Fresh Air Inlets repaired or provided	9
Vent Shafts repaired or provided	4
Drains relaid	9
New Drains laid	148
Premises connected to Sewer	148
Cesspools abolished	144
Cesspools emptied	3
Cesspool disconnected from ditch	1
Cesspool provided	1
Septic Tank installation provided	1
Drains repaired	6
Drains cleared	71
Soil Pipe renewed	1
Main Water service provided	1
Water Services repaired	10
Cellar flooding abated	2
Yards paved	3
Yards tidied	24
Accumulations of refuse removed	11
Overgrown land cleared	1
Poultry Runs re-sited	2
Piggeries reconstructed	3
Piggeries concreted	2
Accumulations of manure removed	8
Premises limewashed	47
Smoke Nuisances abated	6
Hairdresser's Premises redecorated	1
Hood fitted to acid exhaust	1
Convenience Signs provided	3
Dustbins provided	231
Total Improvements	1476

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

18	cases of Scarlet Fever investigated.
1	case of Poliomyelitis investigated.
2	cases of suspected Poliomyelitis investigated.
1	case of suspected Diphtheria investigated.
1	Scarlet Fever contact investigated.
2	Poliomyelitis contacts investigated.
1	Other visit to premises in connection with Infectious Disease.
30	Rooms, Bedding, etc., disinfected.
52	lots of Bedding steam disinfected.
96	Library Books disinfected.
2	Caravans disinfected.
8	Hospital Wards disinfected.

VERMIN, ETC.

12	Premises inspected.
36	Rooms fumigated.
6	lots of Bedding steam disinfected.
1	Premises treated (Cockroaches)

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The Sanitary Accommodation was inspected at 42 shops, and many improvements secured.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDERS.

Cowsheds Registered	.	.	.	7
Cowsheds Licensed for production of T.T. Milk	.	.	.	4
Dairies Registered	.	.	.	9
Dairies Licensed to Retail T.T. Milk	.	.	.	1
" " " Pasteurised Milk	.	.	.	1
" " " T.T. and Pasteurised Milk	.	.	.	1
Cowshed Inspections	.	.	.	50
Dairy Inspections	.	.	.	90

Main Improvements obtained :

Yards Paved	.	.	.	.	2
Premises Cleansed	.	.	.	.	6

9 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were submitted for examination. 2 samples failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test.

4 samples of Pasteurised Milk submitted during the year were satisfactory.

7 samples of Ordinary Milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination as to the general cleanliness and presence, or otherwise of B.Coli. 1 sample proved unsatisfactory.

WATER ANALYSIS AND EXAMINATION

The undermentioned samples were taken :

- 32 from Town Supply.
- 10 from Waterworks Depot, Old Road.
- 9 from Great Bentley Pumping Station.
- 4 from Great Bentley Main.
- 2 from St. Osyth Pumping Station.
- 3 from St. Osyth Main.
- 1 from a Well.

BATHING POOLS

5 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis.

CAMPING GROUNDS

9 Licences granted—expired on 31st October, 1949.

The combined area of the camping grounds was 54.16 acres.

6 are provided with water closets and proper drainage for waste water. All have Town water laid on.

Also, during the holiday season, sites are used by Church Lads' Brigades, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and other Associations. The maximum stay of each party does not exceed three weeks. These are not subject to licence, but the camps must have Town water and all other facilities under efficient control to prevent the occurrence of Public Health nuisances.

167 inspections were made of Camping sites.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

364 Visits by Inspectors.

1447 Visits by Operator.

1885 Dead Rats picked up.

Private dwellings are baited free of charge except where poultry or other animals are kept and are the cause of infestation.

A charge is made for all trade and business premises.

Close co-operation with the appropriate department of the Ministry of Food has been beneficial to all concerned.

BAKEHOUSES

Bakchouse (non-power) inspections	...	...	1
Bakehonse (power) inspections	...	...	26

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938, Sec. 14—ICE CREAM The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947

Visits to Ice Cream Premises	..	...	228
Main improvements obtained :—			
Ice Cream Stalls screened	...	...	2
New Ice Cream Plant provided	...	...	2

19	Ministry of Health's	Provisional Grade I
14	"	"
9	"	"
7	"	"
		II
		III
		IV

Premises registered during the year ... 46

About 75 per cent. retail pre-wrapped ice cream direct from electrically controlled conservators.

Tri-cycles sell pre-wrapped or tubs (filled and capped).

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

The following visits were made during the year :—

Slaughterhouse, Butchers' Shops and Stores	...	250
Hawkers' Premises	...	3
Restaurants, Cafes, and Kitchens	...	321
Re Applications for Catering Licences	...	7

The following were found to be unfit for human food :—

227 Tins of Milk	64 Tins of Beans
9 " Soup	47 " Peas
85 " Fish Paste	54 " Carrots
30 " Fish	11 " Tomatoes
7 " Pilchards	28 " Vegetables
195 " Meat	1 " Onions
2 " Meat Paste	1 " Spaghetti
2 " Veal Loaf	3 " Grapes
4 " Rabbits	138 " Fruit
3 " Pudding	1 " Honey
6 " Marmalade	1 " Chocolate Spread
2 " Apricots	17 Jars of Pickles
3 " Peaches	1 Bottle of Olives
15 " Jam	1 " Cherries
1 " Cake	$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon of Pickles
976 Bottles of Salad Cream	19 Bottles of Coffee & Chicory
18 lbs. Oats	13 lbs. Sugar
209 lbs. Sago	41 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Butter
120 lbs. Flour	210 Eggs
43 lbs. Cheese	79 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone Fish
7 lbs. Shredded Suet	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Bacon
1 lb. Carrots	80 lbs. Chickens
1 packet Fat	1 Pig's Liver
2 Meat Pies	2 Pigs' Lungs
165 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Beef	1 Pig's Mesentery

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	1	75
Number inspected	—	—	—	1	75
All diseases, except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses					
condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.7%.
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses					
condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.7%.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

Total number of Outbreaks	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number outbreaks of each
1*	None notified	—	—	Salt Beef

*Brought to the Notice of Authority by persons concerned.

FACTORY ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Part I of the Act

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
			Inspection (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
i) Factories in which Secs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	60	33	3	
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	119	111	6	
iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3				
TOTALS		179	144	9	

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	8	6			
Overcrowding (S.2)	5					
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	6					

Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7	2			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	2			
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	9	1	1		
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	20	18		1
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	1	1		
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	4			
Totals	60	38	26		1

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work ()	M/c line No (2)	Section 110		
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) (3)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (4)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (5)
Wearing apparel : Making, etc. ...	15	54		
Artificial flowers	28	2		
Total	70	56		

Premises inspected 12

REMOVAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE

Removal is by rear-loading mechanical vehicles. Six vehicles are in use from May to October ; five machines during the remainder of the year. Refuse is removed weekly. During the holiday season, Hotels, Restaurants, Tradesmen's Premises, and large Boarding Houses are cleared more frequently.

Trade refuse is removed by arrangement, the income from such source for 1949 being £261.

Total gross cost of collection	£7,702	
Gross cost per ton collection		£1 5s. 7.5d.
Total net cost of collection	£4,960	
Net cost per ton collection		16s. 6.04d.
Income from Waste Paper	£2,028	
Total weight of refuse collected		6,011 tons

Refuse Disposal is by incineration and controlled tipping. The disposal site is at Rush Green, on the western outskirts of the town. Area of the site is approximately 30 acres.

The total amount of refuse dealt with in the year 1949 was 6,159 tons.

Income from salvaged materials	£1,095	
Total gross cost of disposal	£3,715	
Gross cost per ton disposal		12s. 1.15d.
Total net cost of disposal	£2,608	
Net cost per ton disposal		8s. 5.63d.

STREET AND PROMENADE CLEANSING

The district is divided into beats ; each regular sweeper being responsible for his area. During the holiday season additional labour is brought in.

All County roads by agreement are cleansed by this Authority.

Total cost of street and promenade cleansing £3,672

STREET GULLIES

Cleansed by mechanical means (Hired Service) three times each year
Total cost £134.

SNOW CLEARANCE, ETC.

When necessary, snow plough brought into action. Mechanical road gritter used for frosty roads. Supply of salt always in stock.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are sixteen public conveniences as undermentioned :—

Convenience	Water Closets		Urinal Accom.	Wash Basins	
	M	F		M	F
West Avenue	8	16	„	9	4
Jetty	6	9	„	4	4
West Cliff	9	8	„	8	5
Anglefield	5	10	„	3	3
East Cliff	2	4	„	—	—
Magdalen Green	2	2	„	—	—
Marine	2	3	„	—	1
Ship	2	3	„	—	—
Holiday Home	4	7	„	4	4
Jaywick (Garden Road)	2	2	„	—	—
Holland Recreation Ground	2	2	„	1	1
Car Park, Old Road, Female	—	10	„	—	3
Car Park, Old Road, Male	3	—	„	2	—
Clacton Recreation Ground	2	4	„	—	—
Brighton Road	2	3	„	—	—
Lyndhurst Road	2	3	„	—	—
Totals	53	86	15	31	25

Total income from Conveniences	£4,850
Net cost	£1,448

SECTION D.

HOUSING

I—Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included in (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose
- (3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under (3)) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation

II.—Remedy of defects without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	78
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III.—Action under Statutory powers :—

(a) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, Secs. 9, 10, and 16 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Housing Act 1936, secs. 11 and 13 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936, sec. 12 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Inspections re Permitted Number	...	21
Inspections re Overcrowding	...	5
Enquiries for other Local Authorities	...	4
Visits re Permits for Timber (Flooring)	..	109
Visits re Squatters		2

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1949

By Private Enterprise	...	8
By the Council		48
Total		56

It will be seen that 56 new houses were erected in Clacton, or just under 0.6 per cent. of the total existing dwellings.

Housing still remains the principle menace to public health. Two of the fundamental factors in the standard of living are housing and food with the means of obtaining them. There is little doubt that the standard of living is not improving in these respects.

Houses are wasting assets, and the balance between houses built and those demolished is not a true indication of the position. Clacton is very fortunate, being a comparatively new town; there are few houses that are beyond repair, but nevertheless, there are many that the owners would have had great difficulty in letting two generations ago even at an extremely low rent.

Owners, whether Councils or private, cannot afford to be philanthropists, and it would seem that some practical scheme, fair to both owners and tenant occupiers, might be devised that would delay the process of decay which occurs in all houses at an increasing rate according to their age and soundness of construction. This deterioration might to a very large extent be prevented, or at least retarded if the rental values were commensurable with the state of repair and habitableness of the houses or dwellings. Since rents do not fall with the habitable fitness of a house, derelict houses can and are let at rents out of all proportion to their value as human habitations, thus giving owners no inducement to maintain their properties in first class condition.

At the present time it would appear that only authoritative control could compel repairs on the one hand, whilst on the other, adjust rents whether up or down according to the habitable standard of the houses.

The present state of affairs will persist until the happy position is reached when the number of houses is in excess of the demand, and then the fundamental principles governing economy would naturally compel owners to keep up the standard of repair of their property or accept lower rents with the ultimate prospect of the inability to obtain tenants even of the worst type.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

The protection against aerial bombardment assumes great importance and is closely connected with housing. It would now appear that the immediate destruction from the atomic bomb explosion is mainly due to blast and there is little doubt but that a well constructed underground cellar some four feet below the surface level, provided it were constructed to stand the falling masonry, would give the best chance of survival ever near the centre of the explosion. It would seem reasonable that if it were made compulsory for all new houses to have such a basement structure it would be the means of great saving of life in case of atomic aerial bombardment.

SECTION E.

Inspection of Food.

MILK PRODUCTION.

With regard to work carried out under the Milk & Dairies Orders, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report—Section C.

MEAT.

Routine slaughtering is done outside the District. For particulars of meat and other foods inspected and condemned, see the Sanitary Inspector's Report—Section C.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1949

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever .	18	5	—
Poliomyelitis .	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .	1	1	—
Whooping Cough .	33	—	—
Chicken-pox .	33	—	—
Measles ,	78	—	—
Totals	164	7	—

There were 164 cases of infectious diseases notified as compared with 245 in 1948. This is due to the fall in the incidence of Measles ; 78 cases were notified against 189 last year. This disease is universal, but one attack of true Measles usually protects the individual for life. It usually takes on epidemic form every 4 or 5 years with the accumulation of a new susceptible child population. No preventive measures have proved successful in combating this disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

For the third year in succession, Clacton has been free from Diphtheria. Immunisation is now carried out by the Essex County Council which is the Local Health Authority for the Urban District.

Statistics show that during 1949, 211 children between one and five years, and 2 children between five and fifteen years received the full course of inoculation.

10 children received a secondary or re-inforcing injection.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1949

Ages in Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory M	Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F	Respiratory M	Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F
0—1								3
1—5							1	
5—15	1		1	1				
15—25		2						
25—35	2	1				2		
35—45	3	1		1	2	3		
45—55					1			
55—65			1					
65 upwards					1			
Totals	6	4	2	2	4	5	1	3
New Cases			14		Deaths			13

The following figures give the number of cases on the Register at the end of 1949 :—

Respiratory—Male	57	Non-Respiratory—Male	14
Female	37	Female	16
	94		30
Total	...	124	

Deaths from Tuberculosis since 1939 :—

1939	...	5
1940	...	9
1941	...	4
1942	...	5
1943	...	6
1944	...	2
1945	...	5
1946	...	5
1947	...	7
1948	...	9
1949	...	13

Whilst the above figures show a slight increase in deaths from tuberculosis in Clacton, the position is not alarming and may quite easily be due to the usual fluctuations found in such statistics.

This is not the case throughout the country, and the increase in the

incidence of this disease is causing much anxiety in the northern industrial areas and in Scotland.

For 25 years previous to the war, there had been a general and progressive fall in the deaths from this disease. The reverse was to be expected during the war years, but afterwards it would be reasonable to anticipate a resumption of the pre war tendency. As stated, rather the reverse has occurred in some areas, particularly in the north.

What is the cause of this variation in the same country?

If this question could be definitely answered, it would greatly help in the fight against tuberculosis. Apart from the differences in climate, it would be interesting to ascertain the differences in the hygienic circumstances and the public health administration between the districts with the highest incidence and those with the lowest.

Many factors, social, economic, hygienic, and biological affect the spread of tuberculosis, but the question resolves itself into the resistance of the individual to the bacterial infection on the one hand, and the potency or virulency of the infecting agent on the other. To raise the one or lower the other produces the improvement required and vice versa.

It would appear that perhaps too much attention is being paid at the present time to reducing the suspected and known causes of infection at the expense of the investigation of the means of assisting the natural processes and circumstances which tend to raise the resistance.

Important factors with a beneficial influence upon the bacterial infection are adequate housing with the accompanying reduction of overcrowding, an adequate and correctly balanced diet, and sufficient rest whether from work or pleasure.

Further, the biological processes by which the natural resistance of the individual is increased by coming in contact with a non-effective dose of the infection is not as yet thoroughly understood but nevertheless does exist and probably plays perhaps the most important part in the control of an infection.

Tuberculosis infection is widespread and the great majority of human beings are infected during life, but their bodily resistance to the germ overcomes it in the great majority of cases and only an unfortunate few actually contract the disease.

There would seem to be little doubt that the danger of obtaining a massive and consequently a perilous dose is when the individual is suddenly exposed to direct infection. Whilst it is evident there must be numerous sources of infection, yet at the present time so much stress is being laid upon tuberculous milk as a cause of tuberculosis that the general public has come to the conclusion that the tuberculosis-free

milk means the end of tuberculosis, and conversely the consumption of raw milk is the main if not the only cause of the spread of this disease. This is unfortunate.

There are rural areas where the great majority of the inhabitants use nothing but raw milk, yet the incidence of and deaths from tuberculosis are very low indeed.

On the other hand, some of the towns where the disease is actually increasing have an extremely safe milk supply. Is there possibly a danger that by chasing a shadow at the expense of more essential factors in the control of this dread disease the substance may be lost?

Increasing the natural and acquired resistance is equally if not more important than endeavouring to try to stamp out an infection which is almost universal. It would seem that if the liability of the individual to receive a dangerous massive dose can be controlled, the natural biological processes are capable of dealing with the smaller and ineffective doses.